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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of Drawings includes changes to Fig. 3. This sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3.

Attachment: One (1) Replacement Sheet

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 3-5, 7-12, 14-16, 18 and 20-25 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 1, 2, 6, 13, 17 and 19, amend claims 3, 7, 8, 11, 12, 18, 20 and 22 and add new claim 25.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 10-12, 14-16, 18, 23 and 24 are allowable, and that claims 3-5, 7-9 and 20-22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The drawings were objected to for containing a minor informality. Applicants have amended Fig. 3 to correct the minor informality noted by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for allegedly failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Applicants have canceled claim 13. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) because they included reference character "28" which was not mentioned in the specification. Applicants have amended the specification so as to mention reference character "28". Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) because they did not include reference character "20" which was mentioned in the specification. Applicants have amended the specification so as to remove mention of reference character "20". Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

The specification was objected to for containing various minor informalities. Applicants have amended the specification to correct the minor informalities noted by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and

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withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 11 and 18 were objected to for containing minor informalities. Applicants have amended claims 11 and 18 to correct the minor informalities noted by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Claim 12 was objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) as allegedly being in improper dependent form. Applicants have amended claim 12 to depend upon claim 10 (instead of claim 11), as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 1, 2 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(a) and 102(e) as being anticipated by Ikada et al. (U.S. 2003/0020562). Claims 6 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(a) and 102(e) as being anticipated by Ohashi (U.S. 6,489,860). Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohashi in view of Ogura et al. (JP 11-068512). Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohashi in view of Ogura et al. and Ueda et al. (JP 8-65089).

Applicants have canceled claims 1, 2, 6, 13, 17 and 19. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art rejections of claims 1, 2, 6, 13, 17 and 19 are moot.

In addition, Applicants have amended each of allowable claims 3, 7, 8, 20 and 22 to be in independent form including all of the features of the respective base claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 3, 7, 8, 20 and 22 are allowable. Claims 4, 5, 9, 21 and 25 depend upon claims 3, 7, 8 and 20, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claims 3, 7, 8 and 20 are allowable. Furthermore, claims 10-12, 14-16, 18, 23 and 24 are allowable, as indicated by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

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To the extent necessary, Applicants petition the Commissioner for a ONE-month extension of time, extending to December 11, 2005, the period for response to the Office Action dated August 11, 2005.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 7, 2005


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